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SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, the very purpose of this provision is defeated by the owners of the estate by creating bogus documents in the names of their near relations and dependants and persons who have been cultivating regularly for a number of years are deprived of their lands and they are not given any lands. May I know how the Government propose to meet this contingency? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" As regards people who have been cultivating lands for a number of years, say two or three years, clear instructions have been given that they must be given lands for punam cultivation. It is only in new cases that enquiry has to be made. As regards the bogus transactions, well, if a transaction is alleged to be bogus it has to be gone into."

SRI C. H. KANARAN :—" Last year, the Government wrote to Sri A. K. Gopalan and Sri T. C. Narayanan Nambiar that it was too late to think over this matter and that the Government would consider this question in the next year, i.e., this year. We represented this matter to the Collector of Malabar this year but he stated that it was too late to think of that question now. Therefore, very little progress has been made in that matter. Will the Government take steps to facilitate punam cultivation at least in the coming year? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" May I remind the hon. Member that we are in the month of March 1955, now."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" பூனம் கல்டிவேஷன் ' முறையில் விவசாயிகளுக்கு வசதி செய்து கொடுப்பதில் ஏதோ ' ப்ரொசீஜர் ' இல் கஷ்டம் இருப்பதாக மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். ' ப்ரொசீஜர் ' இல் ஏதாவது கஷ்டம் இருந்தால் அதற்குத்தகுந்தாற்போல் சட்டத்தைத் திருத்துவதற்கு சர்க்கார் யோசிப்பார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" The difficulty is about giving three months' notice."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" Cannot the rules be so amended as to waive this question of giving notice? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Notice will be necessary."

Expenditure incurred on answering questions in the Assembly.

8.40 a.m. * 1285 Q.—SRI M. P. SUBRAMANYAM (on behalf of Sri P. Rangaswami Reddiar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the average expenses incurred for answering questions during the last session of the Assembly?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It is not possible to estimate accurately the average expenditure incurred on answering questions during the last session of the Assembly, as this is only one of the many functions of the Government machinery."

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SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, which hon. Member is guilty of the most expenditure on this account? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It is not only the hon. Members who put the main questions, but also those who put supplementary questions."

* 1286 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" This question will be taken up in the end."

State Electricity Board.

* 1287 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state when a Board would be set up at Madras under the Electricity (Supply) Act of 1948?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given on 8th February 1955 to his Question No. 557; there has been no change in the position since."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" என்ன காரணத்திற்காக அந்த போர்டை சர்க்கார் ஏற்படுத்தாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள்? ஜனங்களுக்கு சௌகரியங்கள் செய்துகொடுப்பதற்கு என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" இதன் காரணங்களை எல்லாம் மின்சார டிமாண்டு வரும்போது சொல்லுவதாக உத்தேசம்."

Allegation against the Police, Mannarghat.

* 1288 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Mannarghat Police, Walluvanad taluk, South Malabar, are taking an indifferent attitude in investigating the occurrence in Pulappatta amsam on 29th November 1954, when in open day-light some people waylaid one Allalath Sankara Panikker and inflicted grievous injuries on him including blinding his right eye; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Maternity ward of the Government Hospital, Usilampatti.

* 1289 *Q.*—SRI V. MUTHU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the construction of a building for the maternity ward attached to the Government Hospital at Usilampatti in Madurai district has been completed, but has been kept unopened for the past six months; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?